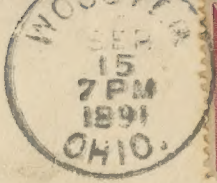

Mrs Mary N. Maleer
Mechanicsburg
Cumberland Co.
Penna.

Wooster Sep. 9th 1891

My Dear Mother:

Just home from prayer meeting and I will write you a short letter before going to bed. Dr Kirkwood remained for faculty meeting Jennie has gone to bed and Janet is reading to her special friend in the parlor, so I am alone. This has been a busy day and I am tired. We have taken one of our periodic cleaning up and fixing up spells. We have had a new furnace put in the cellar the registers moved in several rooms while this cleaning up was on hands we concluded to go on and do some other much needed things. We had a new floor laid in the kitchen moved the pump over by the door - cut a window opposite the stove so we can have daylight on our cooking - put a boiler in back of the stove that we may have hot water through the house laid a new platform on the well, made a new base for the gas stove and a large book case to hold our surplus books.

Such a Commotion as things are in about the back part of the house and in the midst of it all Jonet and I are going out to Congress - some thirteen miles, to a Missionary meeting to-morrow! The work to be done that Dr. will oversee as it is a man's work - then the cleaning up will come. But it will be so nice when it is all done. The kitchen was so dark and the floor so uneven and the pump so in the way. Hurry must you about his little daughter Mary. It is a regular roly poly - weighed ten lbs. eats and sleeps and you would not know there was a baby in the house. John dances around it in great shape - showed it to Sammy with great glee - pretty nearly fell into the cradle trying to kiss it. Elizabeth is getting on nicely this time - is not at all so sick as she was before. Her general health was better before she was sick. Amy Dorcas is expecting to be sick every day. Her mother is very anxious about her.

Monday Night.

Sam and I are seated in my room by a snug little fire; he is writing to Will and I to you. The Dr. has gone to Faculty meeting Janet is dressing to read with Fred, her friend. They are reading Longfellow Mrs Rhodes has done the day's work all the windows are meshed but those in the Kitchen. The stove blacked, the pots and skillets cleaned the Kitchen scrubbed &c. &c. To-morrow forenoon Janet and I can finish the cleaning and then the house will be in good order throughout.

The Tibbles came last Friday They were at church on Sabbath and I drove around this afternoon to see if I could do anything for them I sent them our extension table to use. They are going right in to their own house. Their children are very pretty Mrs Tibbet is so bright and sweet looking. I am sure we will like them both. So many ministers families are coming to Wooster. Our circle is rapidly widening and I look forward to a pleasant winter.

Dr. Kirkwood is to teach in Modern English elective and I am to help him study it up. He said he would not think of attempting it unless I agreed to help him. I am greatly delighted over the opportunity.

I am Secretary of the Freedmen's interests in our Society and will have a good deal to do in collecting the clothing, packing and sending the barrels. We have made some bedding for the schools and some other garments - all these will have to be packed and sent. They are to be stored here, and will have to be packed here also. I have to prepare for the meeting on next Friday also. I have been to long out of the run of things in all Missionary work. It will take me some time to post up. I shall confine myself to the department of the Freedmen for this year and can easily work it up. I want to do some Bible studying also, in the Gospel of John.

This will be a full week. Wednesday school opens at ten A. M. and we must go to the opening exercises - In the afternoon there is an important temperance meeting I must attend, In the evening

Presbytery. Thursday evening the Faculty ladies are to give a reception to the young ladies of the College, at Mrs. Searle's. This is to afford an opportunity for the ladies to meet the girls and for the girls to meet the ladies. It has seemed so difficult for us to find any way to know them. I hope it will prove pleasant and profitable. On Friday afternoon the Home Miss. Society meets at Mrs Compton's, and I have the Freedmen. In the evening the Y. M. C. A. gives a general reception which we are all expected to attend. So you see the mill begins to grind. I am feeling hungry than for time [illegible] and can hope to do my share in all these matters.
I get very tired however, helping with the work as I have to do when we have no girl. I dread to have another girl I got so tired of Zilda and her dirt. I have not tried to get one but suppose I will have to try soon.

I wonder how you are arranging. Will Annie Davies stay on with you through the winter?

Cannot you come out and spend part of the winter with me here in Worster? You might come about the holidays and stay till Spring. Elizabeth is very anxious to have you stay awhile with her. She would be very kind and John certainly is cute and sweet. The new baby is remarkably good. You would not know there was a baby in the house. Mrs Goston is still here. And old Mrs Hurst is gone at last. Lyman Leeds too. What come of that daughter that next out west to marry a widower? How is Ellen - she will have more time at home since her and Mary is gone. How did that grand-daughter who went west with her children get on. How is Robert Young? What are Maggie Mallett and the Jenns doing? Now I must say good night. With much love

I had letters to-day from Will & Mary Jennie they were both well and happy.

published a safe journey to Emporia Kansas where he has gone to take the chair of Natural Science. His school commenced last week. He started off all right and I hope he will make a success of his work. I know he will if his health allows.

Many reports favorably - wonder if I told you that the Ladies of the Presidential Board gave a reception for Dr. and Mrs Gillespie and all the Missionaries there. Mr and Mrs. Fitch were there and a number of others. Dr. and Mrs. Gillespie went out to Mills to lunch. Dr. G. wrote me how much he enjoyed seeing Mary. She saw Mr and Mrs Jones - went to the Steamer to see the party off. I may have told you this before.

Our new professor Seeley is here the one who comes to take Dr Black's place. He is about inches over six feet tall and quite fair. He makes a good impression. The Dunkards will like him. He has just come to Mr. York has a wife and two children.

is just Harrie's age.

Friday afternoon. Both Sue have been to the Missionary meeting - and to-day I am quite tired out.

Saturday night - I am extremely tired and can only write a line before I go to bed. We have had a busy day cleaning the house generally - had Mrs Rhodes the forenoon. The paying in the kitchen and cellar are almost done - Mrs Rhodes comes Monday to clean up there and wash the windows through the house. Next Wednesday school begins for another year. I guess we are ready to go to work again. We have had a long vacation - almost three months. The University building is in bad shape for school, but we can bear with - much in hope of what is to come when it is all finished. Dr. Taylor is here now - Mrs Taylor will be here all Winter, I think. She cannot think of going back to St. Louis. I think Dr. T. will give up his work on the Mid-Continent.